Met Office

June 2009

The averaging period used for the following assessment was 1971-2000.

UK overview

Mean temperatures were up to 1.5 °C above the 1971-2000 normal across the UK. The largest departures from normal were in western areas of England, Wales and Scotland, but values were nearer normal in parts of eastern Scotland and eastern England. The mean maximum temperature for Western Scotland was the highest since 1992. Rainfall was below normal in most areas, but above normal in a few small areas, with parts of the West Midlands receiving around double the long-term average for June. The driest regions included Kent and Cornwall, with only around a third of the June average. Sunshine was above average everywhere away from eastern coasts, with around 150% of the June average in parts of Northern Ireland and north-west Scotland.

A maximum temperature of 31.8 °C was recorded at Wisley (Surrey) on 30th. Kinlochewe (Highland) recorded a maximum temperature of 26.9 °C on 24th. Kinbrace (Highland) recorded a minimum temperature of -2.7 °C on 7th. Nant-yr-Ysfa (Mid Glamorgan) recorded 91.2 mm of rainfall in the twenty-four hours ending 0900 UTC on 7th, and Kenton (Devon) recorded 84.2 mm on the same date. A wind gust of 59 mph was recorded at Capel Curig (Gwynnedd) on 17th.

England diary of highlights

June began with very warm weather by day, but also a few heavy showers broke out in places, and the nights were cool. England then moved into a spell of cooler, more unsettled weather, with the 6th being a very wet day in certain areas, and heavy rain also around 10th and 15th. After mid-month it remained unsettled, particularly in the north. Pressure was higher during the last 10 days of the month, and the weather gradually settled down with temperatures climbing; 30 °C was exceeded at a few stations on 29th/30th. Overall, June was warmer and rather sunnier than average, and drier in most areas.

1st to 5th: High pressure dominated the weather, keeping it largely dry with a good deal of sunshine through this period, particularly in the south. Also the very warm conditions did set off a few heavy showers, particularly in the far south. Hail was reported at Portsmouth (Hampshire) on the 1st. Very high temperatures in places by day and some clear nights gave a notable contrast. The highest temperature of this spell was on the 1st with 27.2 °C recorded at Lee-on-Solent (Hampshire). Overnight temperatures came within a few degrees of freezing in several spots on the 4th, with Benson (Oxfordshire) down to 1.9 °C and Woodford (Greater Manchester) recording 2.5 °C.

6th to 11th: The weather became more unsettled through this period as the high pressure retreated northwards. Southern parts saw some very heavy rain through this period, with thunderstorms reported. There were some very localised torrential downpours, with 84.2 mm at Kenton (Devon) on the 6th. These downpours gave rise to localised flooding across the southern half of England. The showery weather continued through this period, with other places catching heavy ones. Also it was a much cooler period. The highest temperature was 21.2 °C at Heathrow (Greater London) on the 11th, and there was even a slight frost in parts of the north with Shap (Cumbria) recording a minimum of -0.9 °C on the 9th.

12th to 16th: A mostly showery period of weather, with all parts enjoying some drier sunny periods as well. The showers did become heavy at times with again some parts recording exceptionally heavy, thundery ones. For example, Heacham (Norfolk) caught a couple of storms on the 15th with 20.2 mm and 23.0 mm in the space

of 3 hours. There was also a report of 59 mm in two hours just to the south of Cambridge. The highest temperature during this period was 25.2 °C at London Weather Centre on the 16th.

17th to 21st: This was the most unsettled and windiest part of the month with gales in the far north. A period of rain swept eastwards on the 17th with 40.8 mm recorded at St Bees Head in Cumbria. The rain was light and more patchy further south and east. This led into a showery period, with the heaviest and most frequent showers in the north and west, while parts of the south remained dry. The temperature reached 21.7 °C at Plymouth (Devon) on the 21st.

22nd to 26th: High pressure dominated the weather through this period, but it was not entirely settled. Showers were the dominant force in the weather, with some particularly heavy ones. Linton-on-Ouse (North Yorkshire) recorded 15.6 mm in one hour, a typical example of the intensity of the storms. Some of the storms generated funnel clouds, with a few of these reported on the 26th. Many parts did enjoy some fine weather, and it became warm, e.g. 25.7 °C at Carlisle on the 23rd, Heathrow 28.0 °C on the 25th.

27th to 30th: Very warm weather edged in from the south and east through this period. It brought with it some high temperatures, the highest for three years, but also some very heavy and intense thunderstorms with hail. Hailstones covered the ground in places, notably Bexley Heath (Greater London) and Winterbourne (West Midlands). Also hail the size of marbles was reported at Romford (Essex) on the 27th. These storms were scattered throughout the UK but after the 27th the south-east of England became dry, hot and mostly sunny. The highest temperatures were 31.3 °C on the 29th and 31.8 °C on the 30th, both at Wisley (Surrey). North Sea coasts were quite a bit cooler with onshore breezes and low cloud or fog at times.

Wales diary of highlights

June began with warm weather by day, but also a few heavy showers in places. This was followed by cooler, more unsettled weather. After mid-month it remained unsettled for a time, but pressure rose during the last 10 days of the month, and the weather gradually settled down and warmed up. Overall, June was warmer, drier and sunnier than average.

1st to 7th: An area of high pressure brought largely settled conditions through the first week with easterly winds. On the 1st-3rd it was dry with sunny spells, and daytime temperatures reached the low to mid-twenties (25.7 °C at Hawarden, Flintshire, on the 1st). A cold front brought cooler conditions later on the 3rd, with a low of 3.2 °C at Hawarden overnight into the 4th. Though cooler on the 4th, it was dry and sunny, with a high of 18.7 °C at Sennybridge (Powys), then scattered locally thundery showers covered Wales on the 5th with a high of 16.4 °C at St Athan (Glamorgan). Over the weekend of the 6th/7th heavy thundery rain spread to South Wales, with a 24-hour accumulation of 91.2 mm at Nant-yr-Ysfa (Mid Glamorgan), but it remained drier in the north until later on the 7th. A daytime maximum of only 8.6 °C was recorded at Lake Vyrnwy (Powys) on the 6th.

8th to 14th: Most places became dry for a time on the 8th, but with some further showers later. There were more showers on the 9th and 10th, with thundery downpours on the 10th giving 28 mm at Hawarden in three hours during the afternoon. Further showers developed on the 11th as a weak ridge formed. Some light rain spread northwards on the 12th, then much of Wales was dry and pleasantly warm over the weekend of 13th/14th.

15th to 21st: Some heavy showers developed on the 15th, but most places became dry for the 16th as a ridge of high pressure developed. Outbreaks of rain spread across Wales during the 17th, with some large totals over western upslopes. Most places were dry on the 18th, with a few showers in North Wales. Much of the 19th was dry but for a few showers; it was cloudier later with some rain into northern parts during the evening. Over the weekend of 20th/21st there was a little patchy rain, with some bright spells and temperatures were near normal.

22nd to 30th: High pressure became established across Wales for the period 22nd to 25th with largely dry weather and temperatures becoming much higher. From the 26th through to the 30th pressure began to fall, with thundery troughs spreading from Biscay and France. A funnel cloud was reported over the Brecon Beacons on the 26th. Some heavy showers fell in North Wales overnight into the 27th, with 28.6 mm of rain at Rhyl, but then it became drier for a time again during the 27th. With the more southerly flow, conditions turned more showery with localised thunderstorms affecting Wales at times on the 28th-30th, but it continued very warm or hot and humid. A heavy line of showers formed in west Wales on the 30th.

Scotland diary of highlights

June began mainly dry and very warm, but after a few days turned decidedly cooler and more unsettled. The final ten days of the month were much warmer again, but there were still outbreaks of rain at times. Overall the month was drier and sunnier than normal, and warm especially in the west. The mean maximum temperature for Western Scotland was the highest since 1992.

1st to 4th: Apart from a little drizzle over Orkney, the 1st was dry with plenty of sunshine. Strathallan (Perth & Kinross) recorded 26.7 °C. It was cloudier across the north and east on the 2nd with a little drizzle on the Moray coast. Maximum temperatures ranged from 13.8 °C at Dyce (Aberdeenshire) to 26.1 °C at Eskdalemuir (Dumfries & Galloway). The 3rd was much cooler but mainly dry and bright with the best of the sunshine in the west. A few showers affected the north Highlands and north-east on the 4th; elsewhere it was dry with some sunshine, unbroken in the far west.

5th to 20th: Showers were more widespread on the 5th and 6th with hail and thunder in places. It was cool, with Dyce reaching just 10.7 °C on the 6th. The 7th and 8th were bright, with sunny or clear spells and showers, but cool, with a touch of overnight frost in the glens, for example -1.5 °C at Tulloch Bridge (Highland) on the 7th. There was a good deal of dry and bright weather on the 9th, although a few showers developed over Highland. The south and west stayed mainly dry and bright on the 10th, but heavy showers developed elsewhere, which became prolonged and occasionally thundery in the north-east. These cleared soon after dawn on the 11th to leave sunny spells and showers, the showers heavy with hail and thunder in the east. The 12th was mainly dry with sunny spells, though cloud and patchy rain reached the south-west later. The rain moved north on the 13th followed by sunshine and scattered thundery showers, and golf-ball-sized hail was reported at Leuchars (Fife). The 14th saw a mixture of sunshine and showers, the showers turning heavy and thundery, and Bishopton (Renfrewshire) recorded a temperature of 19.9 °C. Sunny intervals and slow-moving thundery showers occurred on the 15th, and flooding was reported in Dunbartonshire. The 16th saw sunny spells and occasional showers, but outbreaks of rain reached western parts during the late evening. A spell of sometimes-heavy rain was followed by sunshine and showers through the 17th, and Eskdalemuir recorded 29.0 mm. The 18th brought sunny intervals, but also blustery showers, heavy and thundery in the west. Sunshine and showers again on the 19th and with more general rain in the west later; this pattern was repeated on the 20th.

21st to 30th: It was fine and sunny in the east on the 21st, but it clouded over from the west bringing some patchy rain. The 22nd was warm with a few showers and one gave over 9 mm in an hour in Aberdeen. Murky conditions affected the west coast and Northern Isles. Mainly dry weather with long sunny spells on the 23rd gave a maximum of 26.3 °C at Bishopton. Haar spread up the east coast during the evening. The haar continued in the east on the 24th, but elsewhere it was sunny and Kinlochewe (Highland) recorded 26.9 °C. There was little change during the next few days, although a few showers developed on the 28th, which resulted in some thundery downpours over the south-west in the evening. Some eastern coasts were misty on the 29th, otherwise it was bright with just a few showers and Threave (Dumfries & Galloway) reached 26.8 °C. Similar on the 30th with Kinbrace (Highland) reaching 26.3 °C, but Charterhall (Borders) recorded over 19 mm of rainfall in one hour during a thundery shower.

Northern Ireland diary of highlights

The first few days and the latter part of June were very warm, with just a few showers, but in between there was a spell of cooler and more unsettled weather. Temperatures overall were above average, and it was a dry and sunny month across Northern Ireland.

1st and 2nd: All parts were dry and sunny on the 1st, the warmest day of the year so far: Castlederg (Tyrone) reached 25.8 °C. The 2nd was even warmer with 26.6 °C being recorded at St Angelo (Fermanagh), although a few showers developed through the afternoon.

3rd to 21st: It was rather cooler on the 3rd and 4th, but dry and quite sunny. The 5th was sunny too, though with more in the way of showers, and the temperature at Ballypatrick Forest (Antrim) reached just 11.3 °C. The 6th to the 8th remained cool with a mixture of sunshine and showers. It was mainly dry with some sunshine on the 9th, and the temperature reached 18.0 °C at Castlederg. Many places were dry and bright on the 10th but a few heavy showers developed across the south with an isolated thunderstorm. There were some long clear or sunny spells on the 11th with the odd shower. After a bright, cold start on the 12th (1.0 °C at Castlederg) it became cloudy with a few patches of rain. The 13th to the 15th started mainly dry and bright before heavy thundery showers developed during each afternoon. Flooding was reported in Belfast on the 15th. The 16th was mostly dry with some good spells of warm sunshine; however, outbreaks of rain spread east through the evening. A wet morning on the 17th was followed by sunshine and showers through the afternoon. The 18th had sunny intervals and blustery showers with isolated thunderstorms. Sunshine and showers again on the 19th, with more general rain later. The 20th and 21st were rather cloudy with showers.

22nd to 30th: A bright and warm day on the 22nd with isolated showers in the north. It was dry, very warm and sunny on the 23rd, 25.2 °C being recorded at Castlederg. The dry and sunny theme continued through the 24th. There was patchy cloud around on the 25th and 26th, but it was again bright and warm or very warm. Isolated showers occurred on the 26th. There was more cloud on the 27th to the 29th, but it remained warm with bright spells and isolated showers. After a dry start on the 30th, rain spread north-eastwards through the afternoon and evening, and it was another warm day with Ballykelly (Derry) recording 25.0 °C.

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